

Message Text

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17

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-06 OPIC-03

SAM-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 SCCT-01 IO-10 SSO-00 /086 W

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R 260955Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4394

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 5673

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PO, SP

SUBJECT: SPAIN PROTESTS PORTUGUESE INTERFERENCE

REFS: (A) LISBON 5606 DTG 231218Z SEP 75

(B) LISBON 5631 DTG 241717Z SEP 75

SUMMARY: SPAIN OFFICIALLY PROTESTED ALLEGED PORTUGUESE INTER-
FERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS. COMMUNIST DOMINATED PRESS HAS BACKED
OFF PROTESTS AGAINST CONDEMNATIONS OF SPANISH TERRORISTS FOR FEAR
OF PROVOKING SPANISH REACTION. END SUMMARY.

1. THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALLY PROTESTED ALLEGED PORTU-
GUESE INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL SPANISH AFFAIRS SEPT 24. SPANISH
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS REPORTEDLY CALLED IN PORTUGUESE
AMBASSADOR TO SPAIN SEPT 24, SPANISH AMBASSADOR TO PORTUGAL
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DELIVERED PROTEST TO FOREIGN MINISTER ANTUNES SEPT 25,

OFFICIAL PROTEST FOLLOWS SEPT 22 WITHDRAWAL OF OFFICIAL SPANISH TV CORRESPONDENT IN REACTION TO "ANTI-SPANISH" CAMPAIGN BY OFFICIAL PORTUGUESE RADIO AND TELEVISION. (REFS A AND B).

2. IN SHARP CONTRAST TO THE HOSTILE RESPONSE OF PORTUGUESE MEDIA OVER THE PAST SEVERAL DAYS TO SPANISH CONCERN, GOP-FINANCED AND COMMUNIST-LINING "DIARIO DE NOTICIAS" (DN) OF SEPT 25 HEADLINED SPANISH PROTEST AND FEATURED TWO CAUTIONARY ARTICLES. DN CORRESPONDENT IN BARCELONA ALLEGED THAT SEPT 21 TV INTERVIEW WITH SPANISH "REVOLUTIONARY" WAS FAR-LEFT ATTEMPT TO DISRUPT RELATIONS WITH SPAIN: DN CORRESPONDENT CITED PCP LEADER CUNHAL'S REPEATED CALLS FOR GOOD RELATIONS WITH SPAIN BASED ON PRINCIPLES OF NON-INTERVENTION. A SECOND DN COLUMNIST, RECENTLY INSTALLED IN DN BY THE PCP, LAMENTED DAMAGE TO RELATIONS WITH SPAIN CAUSED BY "PROVOCATION OF FACTIONS" (READ THE FAR LEFT). HE CONCLUDED THAT "IT IS TIME TO END THIS OBSESSION WITH EXPORTING REVOLUTION" AND THAT PRESENT DISRUPTION IN RELATIONS WITH SPAIN SHOULD BE REMEDIED.

3. COMMENT: ALL ELEMENTS OF THE PORTUGUESE LEFT HAVE VIGOROUSLY PROTESTED THE DEATH SENTENCES GIVEN TO SPANISH TERRORISTS. BUT THE PCP HAS APPARENTLY DECIDED THAT THE POLITICAL MILEAGE DERIVED FROM TOO VIGOROUS ANTI-FRANCO ACTIVITIES IS NOT WORTH THE RISK OF PROVOKING SPANISH REACTION.
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